

1 Raymond P. Boucher, State Bar No. 115364
ray@boucher.la
2 Shehnaz M. Bhujwala, State Bar No. 223484
bhujwala@boucher.la
3 Maria L. Weitz, State Bar No. 268100
weitz@boucher.la
4 BOUCHER LLP
21600 Oxnard Street, Suite 600
5 Woodland Hills, California 91367-4903
Tel: (818) 340-5400
6 Fax: (818) 340-5401

7 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs Kelly Tharp,*
8 *Daniel Tharp, and Kenneth Coonce*

9
10 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
11 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, EASTERN DIVISION**

12 KELLY THARP, Individually, and on
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated;
13 DANIEL THARP, Individually, and on
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated;
14 KENNETH COONCE, Individually,
and on Behalf of All Others Similarly
15 Situated,

16 Plaintiffs,

17 v.

18 ANTHEM, INC., d/b/a ANTHEM
HEALTH, INC., an Indiana
19 Corporation; THE ANTHEM
COMPANIES, INC., an Indiana
20 Corporation; THE ANTHEM
COMPANIES OF CALIFORNIA,
21 INC., a California Corporation;
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS LIFE AND
22 HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY,
A California Corporation; and DOES 1-
23 10, Inclusive,

24 Defendants.

Case No. 5:15-cv-1046

CLASS ACTION

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1. Violations of California's Unfair Competition Law [Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 *et seq.*];
2. Violation of California's Data Breach Act [Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.80 *et seq.*];
3. Violation of California's Confidentiality of Medical Information Act [Cal. Civ. Code § 56 *et seq.*]
4. Negligence

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 Plaintiffs Kelly Tharp, Daniel Tharp, and Kenneth Coonce, individually and
 2 on behalf of a class of all other similarly situated persons defined below
 3 (“Plaintiffs”), allege and complain the following facts and counts against defendants
 4 Anthem, Inc., doing business as Anthem Health, Inc., an Indiana corporation, The
 5 Anthem Companies, Inc., an Indiana corporation, The Anthem Companies Of
 6 California, Inc., a California corporation, Anthem Blue Cross Life And Health
 7 Insurance Company, a California corporation, and Does 1-10, inclusive
 8 (“Defendants”), and respectfully request a trial by jury of all issues and causes of
 9 action so triable.

10 INTRODUCTION

11 1. Plaintiffs bring this class action lawsuit on behalf of themselves and all
 12 other persons similarly situated, whose privacy rights Defendants violated and
 13 continue to violate, and whose security Defendants have placed at great risk.

14 2. Defendants uniformly failed to implement and maintain security
 15 measures and protocols to protect the personal information of current and former
 16 members of Defendants’ affiliated health insurance plans, including their names,
 17 dates of birth, Social Security numbers, medical identification numbers, home
 18 addresses, e-mail addresses, employment information including income data, and
 19 possibly medical information, which Defendants maintained and/or stored on their
 20 databases and servers.

21 3. Defendants’ policies and practices resulted in a massive data breach by
 22 third party hackers announced by Defendants on February 4, 2015, whereby the
 23 personal information of Plaintiffs and Class members was accessed and exposed. By
 24 Defendants’ own estimate, 13.5 million Californians were affected by the data
 25 breach from the estimated 78.8 million persons affected nationwide.¹

26 _____
 27 ¹ 13.5 Million Californians Affected by Anthem Data Breach, LA Times (February
 28 24, 2015): www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-anthem-data-breach-20150224-

1 theft, including freezing their credit for approximately \$60, and have suffered harm
2 and incurred damages as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct
3 alleged herein.

4 7. Plaintiff Kenneth Coonce is, and at all material times was, a California
5 citizen residing in the city of Sanger, Fresno County, California. At all material
6 times, Plaintiff Coonce has been a member of Defendants' Anthem Blue Cross
7 health insurance plan offered through his work. Defendants obtained his personal
8 information including his name, date of birth, Social Security number, medical
9 identification number, home address, e-mail address, and employment information
10 including income data, as a result of his membership in Defendants' plan. In early
11 February, 2015, Plaintiff Coonce first learned of the Data Breach from news reports.
12 Thereafter, he received a letter from Defendants dated March 19, 2015, notifying
13 him in writing of the breach. Plaintiff Coonce has suffered harm and incurred
14 damages as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct alleged herein.

15 8. Defendant Anthem, Inc., which is doing business as Anthem Health,
16 Inc. in California, is and at all material times was a corporation organized and
17 existing under the laws of Indiana, with a principal place of business located at 120
18 Monument Circle, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204. Anthem, Inc. is operating and
19 conducting business under the laws of California and regularly conducts business
20 throughout this District and Division. Prior to December 2014, Anthem, Inc. was
21 known as Wellpoint, Inc., one of the largest health insurance companies in the
22 United States.

23 9. Defendant The Anthem Companies, Inc. is and at all material times was
24 a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Indiana, with a principal
25 place of business located at 120 Monument Circle, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204.
26 The Anthem Companies, Inc. is operating and conducting business under the laws of
27 California and regularly conducts business throughout this District and Division.

28 10. Defendant The Anthem Companies of California, Inc., is and at all

1 material times was a corporation organized and existing under the laws of
2 California, with a principal place of business located at 120 Monument Circle,
3 Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204. The Anthem Companies of California, Inc. is
4 operating and conducting business under the laws of California and regularly
5 conducts business throughout this District and Division.

6 11. Defendant Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company is
7 and at all material times was a corporation organized and existing under the laws of
8 California, with a principal place of business located at 120 Monument Circle,
9 Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204. Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance
10 Company is operating and conducting business under the laws of California and
11 regularly conducts business throughout this District and Division.

12 12. The Defendants sued by the fictitious names DOES 1 through 10 are
13 persons or entities whose true names and identities are currently unknown to
14 Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs will amend this Complaint to allege the true names and
15 capacities of these fictitiously named Defendants when they are ascertained. Each of
16 the fictitiously named Defendants is responsible for the conduct alleged in this
17 Complaint. Through their conduct, the fictitiously named Defendants actually and
18 proximately caused the damages of Plaintiffs and the Class.

19 13. In this Complaint, Defendants Anthem, Inc. d/b/a Anthem Health, Inc.,
20 The Anthem Companies, Inc., The Anthem Companies of California, Inc., Anthem
21 Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company, and Does 1 through 10, inclusive,
22 are sometimes referred to individually as “Defendant” or by name, and are
23 sometimes referred to collectively as “Defendants,” or “the Defendants.”

24 14. At all times mentioned herein, each Defendant was acting as the agent
25 and/or employee of each of the remaining Defendants and was at all times acting
26 within the purpose and scope of such agency and employment. In doing the acts
27 alleged herein, each Defendant, and its officers, directors, members, owners,
28 principals, or managing agents (where the defendant is a corporation, limited

1 liability company, or other form of business entity) authorized and/or ratified the
2 conduct of each other Defendant and/or of his/her/its employees.

3 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

4 15. This Court has original jurisdiction over this action under the Class
5 Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), because this is a class action in which (i)
6 the proposed class consists of more than 100 members; (ii) at least some members of
7 the proposed class and/or subclass are citizens of a state different from at least one
8 of the defendants; and (iii) the matter in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000, exclusive
9 of interest and costs.

10 16. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because they are
11 authorized to conduct business in California, have sufficient minimum contacts in
12 California, or otherwise intentionally avail themselves of the markets within
13 California, through the marketing and sale of health insurance plans in California.

14 17. Venue is proper in the Central District of California, Eastern Division,
15 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) because a substantial part of the events that give
16 rise to the claims herein occurred in this District. In particular, the Tharps' purchase
17 and use of Defendants' Anthem Blue Cross health insurance plan took place within
18 this District and Division. Venue is also proper because Defendants transact
19 substantial business in this District and Division.

20 18. All of the allegations contained in this Complaint are based upon
21 information and belief, except for those pertaining to Plaintiffs and their counsel.
22 Plaintiffs' information and belief are based upon, among other things, the
23 investigation that Plaintiffs and their counsel have conducted to date. The
24 allegations in this Complaint are substantiated by evidentiary support or are likely to
25 be substantiated by evidentiary support upon further investigation and discovery.

26 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

27 **A. Anthem Data Breach**

28 19. On February 4, 2015, Defendants announced that hackers had gained

1 access to Defendants' databases and obtained personal information of current and
 2 former members, such as their name, date of birth, Social Security number, medical
 3 identification number, home address, e-mail address, and employment information
 4 including income data.² To date, Defendants have not clearly stated whether
 5 financial or medical information was accessed or disclosed as a result of the breach,
 6 stating instead that there is no evidence of that such information was targeted or
 7 compromised based on what Defendants currently know. The accessed database
 8 contained records for up to 80 million customers.³ As stated previously, by
 9 Defendants' own estimate, approximately 13.5 million Californians were affected
 10 by the data breach.

11 20. According to Defendants' website, *www.anthemfacts.com*, Defendants
 12 discovered the breach on January 29, 2015. Defendants state that "cyberattackers
 13 tried to get private information about current and former Anthem membersover
 14 the course of several weeks beginning in early December, 2014."⁴ However, the
 15 breach may have started as far back as April, 2014, nine months before Defendants
 16 indicate they discovered the breach.⁵

17 21. Defendants state on their website that all product lines were impacted
 18 by the breach, "except for those current or former Anthem members who only had
 19 coverage for workers compensation, life or disability insurance only."⁶ The
 20 impacted (plan/brand) include Anthem Blue Cross, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue

21 ² See Letter from Joseph R. Swedish, President and CEO Anthem, Inc.:
 22 *www.anthemfacts.com/ceo*.

23 ³ See Health Insurer Anthem Hit by Hackers, Wall Street Journal (February 4,
 24 2015): *www.wsj.com/articles/health-insurer-anthem-hit-by-hackers-1423103720*.

25 ⁴ See Letter to Members dated February 13, 2015: *www.anthemfacts.com/*.

26 ⁵ See Anthem Data Breach May Have Started in April 2014, Krebs on Security
 27 article dated February 15, 2015: *krebsonsecurity.com/2015/02/anthem-breach-may-*
have-started-in-april-2014/.

28 ⁶ See Frequently Asked Questions: *www.anthemfacts.com/faq*.

1 Shield, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Georgia, Empire Blue Cross and Blue Shield,
2 Amerigroup, Caremore, Unicare, HealthKeepers and Golden West.⁷

3 22. While Defendants maintain they were the target of “a very
4 sophisticated external cyber attack” whereby “attackers gained unauthorized access
5 to Anthem’s IT system,”⁸ news reports and security-focused online blogs suggest
6 otherwise. Indeed, the breach was discovered when a database administrator
7 reportedly discovered that his system log in credentials were being used to perform
8 a query he did not initiate on or about January 27, 2015.⁹ The credentials of as many
9 as five of Defendant’ employees were compromised possibly through relatively
10 simple phishing efforts and consistent measures to access the system.¹⁰

11 23. While Defendants’ President and CEO assures customers that
12 safeguarding their personal, financial and medical information is a top priority, and
13 that Defendants maintain “state-of-the-art information security systems” to protect
14 customer data,¹¹ Defendants failed to implement and maintain at least a two-factor
15 authentication (2FA) process for all employees that could have prevented the breach
16 or detected the same much earlier, despite the compromise of employee log in
17 credentials.¹²¹³¹⁴ The sensitive data of Defendants’ customers was secured only by a

18
19 ⁷ *Id.*

20 ⁸ *See: www.anthemfacts.com/ceo.*

21 ⁹ *See Anthem: How Does a Breach Like This Happen?, CSO (February 9, 2015):*
22 *www.csoonline.com/article/2881532/business-continuity/anthem-how-does-a-*
breach-like-this-happen.html.

23 ¹⁰ *Id.*

24 ¹¹ *See www.anthemfacts.com/ceo.*

25 ¹² *See Health Records Are the New Credit Cards, Threat Connect (March 19, 2015):*
26 *www.threatconnect.com/news/news-articles/march-19-cso-online-health-records-*
are-the-new-credit-cards/.

27 ¹³ *See An Anthem to Get Behind: Enable Two-Factor Authentication,*
28 *RSAConference (February 17, 2015): www.rsaconference.com/blogs/an-anthem-to-*

1 log in and password, not a second or even third layer of protection such as a card,
 2 key fob, token or application that generates a temporary password.¹⁵ Defendants also
 3 failed to maintain monitoring technology sensitive enough to detect unusual queries
 4 or transfer of data, and failed to encrypt the entire database.¹⁶

5 **B. Defendants' Misrepresentations Regarding Compliance and Safety**

6 24. At all relevant times, Defendants have mislead (and continue to
 7 mislead) the public concerning the safety of its privacy practices.

8 25. For example, Defendants' Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health
 9 Insurance policy materials as of April 2010 state: "Because PI is defined as any
 10 information that can be used to make judgments about your health, finances,
 11 character, habits, hobbies, reputation, career and credit, we take reasonable safety
 12 measures to protect the PI we have about you."

13 26. The same policy materials go on to represent:

14 We are dedicated to protecting your PHI, and have set up a number of
 15 policies and practices to help make sure your PHI is kept secure. We
 16 keep your oral, written and electronic PHI safe using physical,
 17 electronic, and procedural means. These safeguards follow federal and
 18 state laws. Some of the ways we keep your PHI safe include securing
 19 offices that hold PHI, password protecting computers, and locking
 20 storage areas and filing cabinets. We require our employees to protect
 21 PHI through written policies and procedures. These policies limit
 22 access to PHI to only those employees who need the data to do their
 23 job. Employees are also required to wear ID badges to help keep people
 24 who do not belong out of areas where sensitive data is kept. Also,
 25 where required by law, our affiliates and nonaffiliates must protect the
 26 privacy of data we share in the normal course of business. They are not
 27 allowed to give PHI to others without your written OK, except as
 28 allowed by law.

27 27. These types of promises create duties on behalf of Defendants to secure

28 *get-behind-enable-two-factor-authentication.*

29 ¹⁴ See Anthem's IT System Had Cracks Before Hack, Indianapolis Business Journal
 30 (February 14, 2015): [www.ibj.com/articles/51789-anthems-it-system-had-cracks-](http://www.ibj.com/articles/51789-anthems-it-system-had-cracks-before-hack)
 31 *before-hack.*

32 ¹⁵ *Id.*

33 ¹⁶ *Id.*

1 the personal information of members and former members of Defendants' affiliated
 2 health insurance plans in accordance with the same (or greater) standards promised
 3 with the latest security best practices and trends and require Defendants to continue
 4 to build security into the services it offers. In addition to its contractual duties,
 5 Defendants owed a legal duty to Plaintiffs and the other Class members to maintain
 6 reasonable and adequate security measures to secure, protect, and safeguard its
 7 customers' personal information.

8 28. Defendants cannot disclaim or limit their liability for their security
 9 breaches and violations of law because any such purported terms or waivers in
 10 policies or contracts are contrary to well established public policy are unenforceable
 11 under California law.

12 **C. The Impact of Defendants' Actions on Consumers**

13 29. The impact of Defendants' sub-standard security practices on their
 14 current and former members is far-reaching. Paul Stephens, director of policy and
 15 advocacy at the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, posits that access could be gained by
 16 criminals to existing financial or consumer accounts with the personal information
 17 of Plaintiffs and Class members that Defendants failed to reasonably protect.¹⁷
 18 Moreover, new accounts may be opened with such information unless extreme
 19 measures such as security freezes are taken, which option remains unavailable for
 20 minors in many states, including California. Additionally, Plaintiffs and Class
 21 members are at greater risk to phishing attacks wherein additional personal
 22 information such as account names and passwords for online accounts are obtained.
 23 And, as was the experience of the Tharps, the theft of Social Security numbers
 24 heightens the risk of tax fraud, where stolen personal information is used to claim
 25 tax refunds.

26 ¹⁷ Protecting Yourself from the Consequences of Anthem's Data Breach, New York
 27 Times (February 5, 2015): [www.nytimes.com/2015/02/06/business/protecting-](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/06/business/protecting-yourself-from-the-consequences-of-anthems-data-breach.html)
 28 [yourself-from-the-consequences-of-anthems-data-breach.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/06/business/protecting-yourself-from-the-consequences-of-anthems-data-breach.html).

30. As a result of Defendants' security policies and practices, Plaintiffs and Class members have incurred or are at risk of incurring varied damages, such as bank fees for obtaining new credit and debit cards, overdraft charges, costs arising from the inability to use or access financial accounts such as the inability to pay other bills, costs associated with credit-related services such as credit monitoring, detecting, or freezing, costs associated with false or fraudulent charges on credit or debit accounts, costs associated with false or fraudulent tax returns, not to mention the time and effort lost from dealing with identity theft or mitigation efforts.

31. In short, Defendants' failure to maintain appropriate security measures for its systems have left the privacy and security of millions of consumers vulnerable in ways that cannot be remedied by programs that simply monitor members' credit and bank accounts for fraudulent activity. Until Defendants adopt appropriate, industry-compliant security measures, Plaintiffs and Class members will remain at risk.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

32. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. This action may be brought and properly maintained as a class action because Plaintiffs satisfy the numerosity, adequacy, typicality, and commonality pre-requisites for suing as representative parties pursuant to Rule 23.

33. **Class Definition.** The proposed plaintiff Class that Plaintiffs seek to represent is preliminarily composed of and defined as follows:

All current and former members of Defendants' affiliated health insurance plans in California whose personal information was compromised as a result of the data breach announced on February 4, 2015 ("Class").

34. Excluded from the Class are Defendants named herein; officers and directors of Defendants; members of the immediate family of any Defendant; any judges or justices to whom this action is assigned and their immediate families; and

1 the legal representatives, heirs, successors, or assigns of any such excluded party.

2 35. Plaintiffs reserve the right to amend or otherwise alter the Class
3 definition presented to the Court at the appropriate time, or propose or eliminate
4 sub-classes, in response to facts learned through discovery, legal arguments
5 advanced by Defendants, or otherwise.

6 36. **Numerosity and Ascertainability.** The members of the Class are so
7 numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. By Defendants' own
8 estimate, the current and former members in California whose personal information
9 was compromised as a result of the breach is estimated by Defendants to be 13.5
10 million individuals. Moreover, the precise number of Class members and their
11 addresses may be obtained from a review of Defendants' own records and/or records
12 in the control of Defendants. This information may then be used to contact potential
13 Class members.

14 37. **Typicality.** Plaintiffs are members of the Class. Their claims are
15 typical of the claims of other members of the Class they seek to represent. The harm
16 that Plaintiffs and all other Class members suffered arose from, and was caused by,
17 the same conduct by Defendants. Defendants have acted, or refused to act, on
18 grounds generally applicable to the Class, thereby making injunctive relief and
19 damages appropriate with respect to the Class as a whole.

20 38. **Adequacy of Representation.** Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately
21 represent and protect the interests of the Class members. Plaintiffs have retained
22 counsel that is competent and experienced in consumer class action litigation to
23 ensure such protection. Plaintiffs and their counsel intend to prosecute this action
24 vigorously for the benefit of the Class. Plaintiffs have no interests that are
25 antagonistic to those of the Class. Plaintiffs have no interests that are in conflict with
26 those of the Class.

27 39. **Superiority.** A class action is superior to other available methods for
28 the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy for several reasons. First, the

1 damages suffered by each Class member are too small to warrant individual pursuit
 2 and thus a class action is the only viable method to obtain damages and other relief
 3 from Defendants. Second, class treatment would be superior to adjudicating
 4 individual cases due to the much greater expense and burden that individual
 5 litigation would impose upon the courts. Third, if Class members sought relief
 6 through individual actions, inconsistent or varying adjudications in their individual
 7 cases could establish incompatible standards of conduct for the Defendants.

8 40. **Predominance of Common Questions of Law and Fact.** There exists
 9 a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved in
 10 this case against Defendants, and in obtaining appropriate relief for Defendants'
 11 violations of Plaintiffs' and Class members' rights under statutes and common law.
 12 Pursuant to Rule 23(b)(3), the following questions of law and fact common to the
 13 Class predominate over any individualized issues and the answers to these questions
 14 are apt to drive the resolution of the litigation:

15 a. Whether Defendants' actions as alleged herein violated
 16 California's Unfair Competition Act;

17 b. Whether Defendants' actions constitute a violation of the
 18 California Data Breach Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.90 *et seq.*);

19 c. Whether Defendants' acts and omissions constitute a violation
 20 of the California Online Privacy Protection Act (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 22576);

21 d. Whether Defendants' actions violated the California
 22 Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 56 *et seq.*)

23 e. Whether Defendants' actions as alleged herein constitute
 24 negligence under common law;

25 f. Whether Plaintiffs and Class members are entitled to recover
 26 damages as a result of Defendants' violations of their rights under statutory and
 27 common laws as alleged herein; and

28 g. Whether Plaintiffs and Class members are entitled to injunctive

1 relief to enjoin or restrain the Defendants from committing further violations of
2 consumer rights under statutory and common laws.

3 41. The core factual and legal issues are the same for all Class members:
4 (a) whether the Class member is a current or former member of one of Defendants'
5 affiliated health insurance plans in California; (b) whether the Class member's
6 personal information was compromised as a result of the data breach announced on
7 February 4, 2015; (c) the harm Plaintiffs and Class members suffered thereby; and
8 (d) the measure of damages and injunctive relief that are deemed appropriate.

9 42. The proposed Class may also be certified under Rule 23(b)(1) or (b)(2)
10 because: (a) the prosecution of separate actions by the individual members of the
11 proposed Class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudication which
12 would establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendants; (b) the
13 prosecution of separate actions by individual class members would create a risk of
14 adjudications with respect to them which would, as a practical matter, be dispositive
15 of the interests of other class members not parties to the adjudications, or
16 substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests; and (c)
17 Defendants have acted or refused to act on grounds that apply generally to the
18 proposed class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief or declaratory
19 relief described herein appropriate with respect to the proposed classes as a whole.

20 43. Plaintiffs are unaware of any difficulties that are likely to be
21 encountered in the management of this action that would preclude its maintenance
22 as a class action.

23 **COUNT ONE**

24 **FRAUDULENT, UNFAIR, AND UNLAWFUL BUSINESS PRACTICES**

25 **[Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.]**

26 **(Against All Defendants)**

27 44. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations in all preceding
28 paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

1 have been, acquired by an unauthorized person.” (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.82.)

2 51. Defendants failed to inform all Class members about the security
3 breach and compromise of their personal information within a reasonable amount of
4 time after Defendants became aware the data breach had occurred.

5 52. Defendants unreasonably delayed disclosing the breach of security of
6 Personal Information to Class members following discovery, despite knowing or
7 reasonably believing that consumers’ personal information had been acquired by
8 unauthorized persons.

9 53. Upon information and belief, Defendants were not instructed by any
10 law enforcement agency to delay notification of the data breach to Plaintiffs and the
11 other Class Members.

12 54. Pursuant to Civil Code section 1798.84:

13 Any waiver of a provision of this title is contrary to public policy and is
14 void and unenforceable.

15 Any customer injured by a violation of this title may institute a civil
16 action to recover damages.

17 In addition, for a willful, intentional, or reckless violation of Section
18 1798.83, a customer may recover a civil penalty not to exceed three
19 thousand dollars (\$3,000) per violation; otherwise, the customer may
20 recover a civil penalty of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) per
21 violation for a violation of Section 1798.83.

22 ...

23 (e) Any business that violates, proposes to violate, or has violated this
24 title may be enjoined.

25 55. As a result of Defendants’ violation of Civil Code section 1798.82,
26 Plaintiffs and the other Class Members suffered monetary injury including improper
27 disclosure of their Personal Information, loss of privacy, out-of-pocket expenses
28 incurred to mitigate the increased risk of identity theft and/or fraud as a consequence

1 of the data breach, the value of their time spent mitigating identity theft, fraud,
 2 and/or the increased risk of identity theft and/or fraud, and deprivation of the value
 3 of their personal information, for which there is a well-established national and
 4 international market.

5 56. Plaintiffs seek all remedies available under the Data Breach Act,
 6 including, but not limited to actual damages, statutory damages for Defendants’
 7 willful, intentional, and/or reckless violation of California Civil Code section
 8 1798.83, and equitable relief, as well as reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs under
 9 Civil Code section 1798.84(g).

10 **COUNT THREE**

11 **VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA’S CONFIDENTIALITY OF MEDICAL** 12 **INFORMATION ACT**

13 **[Cal. Civ. Code § 56 *et seq.*]**

14 **(Against All Defendants)**

15 57. Plaintiffs incorporates by reference the allegations in all preceding
 16 paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

17 58. California’s Confidentiality of Medical Information Act, California
 18 Civil Code Sections 56 *et seq.* (“CMIA”) requires health care providers who receive
 19 medical information of patients to establish procedures to ensure the confidentiality
 20 and protection from unauthorized use and disclosure of such information, including
 21 but not limited to security systems restricting access to files containing medical
 22 information. It also prohibits providers from disclosing medical information
 23 regarding a patient without written authorization.

24 59. Defendants are providers of health care within the meaning of Civil
 25 Code section 56.06(a). Plaintiffs are “patients” of Defendants, as defined in Civil
 26 Code section 56.06(h).) Defendants maintain medical information of the Plaintiffs
 27 as defined in Civil Code section 56.06(g).

28 60. Defendants maintained certain medical information and records

1 regarding Plaintiffs and Class members. Pursuant to the CMIA, Defendants had a
2 legal duty to implement policies and practices to protect the confidentiality of such
3 information and records.

4 61. Defendants breached their duty to Plaintiffs and Class members to
5 protect the confidentiality of their medical records and information by failing to
6 implement and maintain reasonable security measures to prevent unauthorized
7 access to Defendants' systems and databases and disclosure of the same.

8 62. Pursuant to California Civil Code section 56.36, Plaintiffs and Class
9 members whose medical information and records were accessed without
10 authorization and/or disclosed are entitled to statutory damages of \$1,000, in
11 addition to any actual damages.

12 **COUNT FOUR**

13 **NEGLIGENCE**

14 **(Against All Defendants)**

15 63. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations in all preceding
16 paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

17 64. Defendants owed a duty to Plaintiffs and Class members to exercise
18 reasonable care in collecting, maintaining, storing, managing, retaining, securing,
19 safeguarding, and/or deleting their personal information, such that it would be
20 adequately protected from being accessed, compromised, stolen, misused, and/or
21 disclosed, unauthorized persons disclosure and use.

22 65. The duty Defendants owed to Plaintiffs and Class members is
23 underscored by California's Data Breach Act and CMIA, which laws were enacted
24 to protect the privacy rights of consumers related to their confidential personal and
25 medical information.

26 66. Defendants knew or should have known of the industry "best practices"
27 for securing the personal information of Plaintiffs and Class members, but failed to
28 follow them.

67. By Defendants' unlawful acts and omissions, Defendants breached their duty to Plaintiffs and Class members to use reasonable care to protect and adequately maintain their personal information. Defendants specifically failed to implement and maintain reasonable security measures to protect the personal information of Plaintiffs and Class members stored on their systems and databases from unauthorized access, use, and disclosure.

68. Defendants' negligence was a substantial factor in causing the harm suffered by Plaintiffs and Class members. As a proximate result of Defendants' breach of its duty, Plaintiffs and Class members suffered economic and other damages. Plaintiffs and Class members have and will be required to incur expenses in terms of time and money to attempt to protect themselves from identity theft, harm to their reputations and their credit.

69. Plaintiffs seeks damages in amounts to be determined at the time of trial, as well as injunctive relief, as a result.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, pray for relief and judgment against Defendants, jointly and severally, as follows:

1. For an order certifying the proposed class and appointing Plaintiffs as Class representative and their counsel as Class Counsel;
2. For actual, compensatory and/or statutory damages;
3. For equitable relief enjoining Defendants from continuing to engage in the unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent business practices described in this Complaint;
4. For equitable relief requiring Defendants to make full restitution of all monies wrongfully obtained and requiring Defendants to disgorge all ill-gotten gains flowing from the conduct described in this Complaint;
5. For an award of attorneys' fees and costs of suit herein pursuant to Civil Code section 1798.84(g), Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5, or as

1 otherwise allowable by applicable law;

2 6. For pre-judgment interest; and

3 7. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

4
5 DATED: May 26, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

6 BOUCHER LLP

7
8
9 By: /s/ Raymond P. Boucher

10 RAYMOND P. BOUCHER
11 SHEHNAZ M. BHUJWALA

12 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs Kelly Tharp, Daniel*
13 *Tharp, and Kenneth Coonce*
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

REQUEST FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of a class of all others similarly situated (“Plaintiffs”), by and through their undersigned counsel of record, hereby respectfully requests a jury trial on all issues and counts so triable.

DATED: May 27, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

BOUCHER LLP

By: /s/ Raymond P. Boucher

RAYMOND P. BOUCHER
SHEHNAZ M. BHUJWALA

Attorneys for Plaintiffs Kelly Tharp, Daniel Tharp, and Kenneth Coonce

BOUCHER LLP
21600 Oxnard Street, Suite 600
Woodland Hills, California 91367-4903